

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

S E C R E T DJIBOUTI 000647

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR DS/DSS, DS/DSS/IP, DS/IP/AF, DS/IP/ITA, AF/E,  
AF/EX, M, S/CT, CA/OCS  
ADDIS ABABA, ASMARA, NAIROBI FOR RSO  
CJTF HOA FOR CG, J2, J3, J2X, MARCENT

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/02/2014

TAGS: [PTER](#) [ASEC](#) [DJ](#)

SUBJECT: DJIBOUTI: EAC 05/02/04

REF: STATE 97324

Classified By: RSO Marc Ramos for reason 1.4 (b) and (g)

1. (S) Post convened a meeting of the Emergency Action Committee (EAC) on 02 May, 2004 to review threat information as outlined in REFTEL and recent threat reporting from other sources. The EAC discussed the potential of attacks on western targets and the addition of needed security measures to mitigate the threat. Potential targets in Djibouti include the Embassy, the U.S. Military Base Camp Lemonnier, and frequented establishments in the downtown area. In addition, the EAC addressed the potential risk of personal attacks to American and other Western civilians as a result of the recent media exposure of inappropriate behavior on behalf of U.S. and British troops in Iraq.

2. (S) The EAC was composed of the Ambassador, DCM, RSO, RAO, USLO, MgtOff, ConOff, PolOff and newly appointed Force Protection Officer (FPO). The contents of REFTEL were discussed in detail and all parties agreed that current physical security measures at the Embassy remain sufficient to deter or disrupt an attack. Mission personnel have been at a heightened level for a period of time and are carrying out appropriate personal security measures. Recent physical security enhancements to the Embassy include:

- The relocation of concrete barriers on to the adjacent lot for the purpose of increasing set back and impeding vehicle entry.
- The placement of new 6 ft. concrete barriers on the beachhead behind the Embassy to increase set back and to prevent a breach of the perimeter by waterborne vessels.
- The installation of portable drop arm barriers on the street in front of the Embassy to secure the street and prevent a breach of the perimeter by a VBIED.

3. (SBU) Appropriate Military representatives from Camp Lemonnier are aware of the current threat and will take measures IAW their SOPs. US Military elements are also coordinating with the host nation and the French Forces in Djibouti (FFD) who have a formal defense agreement with the Government of Djibouti.

4. (S) The EAC agreed that due to the general threat of attacks against Americans world wide and recent threat information emanating from the capture of Al Qaeda operatives in Djibouti, it would be prudent to reiterate the need for vigilance and personal security measures to the American community. ConOff has forwarded the Departments world wide warning to all wardens and members of the community and has reiterated the need to maintain a low profile and strongly consider postponing activities that involve large groups of Americans or Westerners. The Ambassador has scheduled a town hall meeting for community members on 09 May, 2004. The Ambassador, RSO and ConOff will address current security concerns at that time. In addition, The Ambassador will raise US security concerns officially with the Government of Djibouti.

5. (S/NF) Note: Embassy and military officers have queried their respective sources as to the incidents in Iraq, but no information has surfaced that would indicate any anti-American sentiment. This is not to say that the host nation would not voice its opinion on the incidents. Past incidents have shown that, when pressured by its Arab League brethren, the Government of Djibouti will take an opposing stance on certain American Foreign policies so as not to lose face with the public.

6. (U) POC is RSO Marc Ramos at 253-35-39-95 ext. 2307 or 253-35-26-73 (secure).  
RAGSDALE

RAGSDALE